century has reverted to the ignorance and the brutish-ness of the ninth century? Does he take me for Louis le Debonnaire ?

The present Pope has too much power; priests are not made to rule; let them follow the example of St. Peter, St. Paul, and the holy Apostles, who were certainly worth any Julius, Boniface, Gregory, or Leo. Jesus Christ declared that his kingdom was not of this world. Why will not the Popes render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's ? Is he something greater on earth than was Jesus Christ ? But is there anything in common between the interests of religion and the prerogatives of the Court of Rome ? Is religion to be based on anarchy, on civil war, on revolt ? Is that preaching the doctrine of Jesus Christ ? The Pope threatens me with an appeal to the people. In truth, I begin to blush and to feel ashamed at all the foolery that the Court of Rome makes me endure; and perhaps it will not be long, if they insist on creating disturbances in my States, before I refuse to recognise the Pope as anything more than bishop of Rome, the equal of, and on the same rank as the bishops of my States. I would not hesitate to convene the Gallican, Italian, German, and Polish churches in a Council, to settle affairs without the Pope, and to protect my people against the pretensions of the Court of Rome. My crown proceeds from God and from the will of my people; only to God and to my people am I answerable for it. For the Court of Rome I shall always be Charlemagne, and never Louis le Debonnaire. —

Holy Father, this letter was not intended to be seen by Your Holiness. I intreat you to put an end to this quarrel. The Emperor's complaint is justified."